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THE

TRIAL

At LARGE of

JOHN SWAN

ELIZABETH JEFFREYS, Spinster,

For the MURDER of her late Uncle

Mr. Joseph Jeffreys of Walthamstow in Essex,

Affizes held at Chelmsford for the County of Essex, On Wednesday, March 11, 1752,

Before the

Hon. Sir MARTIN WRIGHT, and Sir MICHAEL FOSTER, Knights, Two of his Majesty's Justices of the Court of King's Bench.

To which are added,

The Voluntary Confession of ELIZABETH JEFFREYS, fince her Conviction; also an Account of her incessuous Living with her Uncle, and her Motives for murdering him; likewise the WILL of the Deceased JOSEPH JEFFREYS.

The SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:

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The CONFESSION of Elizabeth Jeffreys, concerning the Murder of her Uncle, Joseph J. fireys.

T Elizabeth Jeffreys, do freely and voluntarily confess, That I first entired and perfuaded John Savan and Thomas Matthews to undertake and perpetrate the Murder of my deceased Uncle; which they both confented to do the first Opportunity: I hat, on the 3d Day of Juy, 1751, myielf and John Savan (Natthews, to my Knowledge, not being in the I oute) agreed to kill my faid Uncle; and accordingly, after the maid was gone to bed, I went into John Swan's Room, and called him, and we went down together into the Kitchen; and, having affisted swan in putting some Pewter, and other Things, into a Sack, I faid I could do no more: and then I went up into my Room; and afterwards Avan came up, as I believe, and went into my Uncle's room, and shot him: which done, he came to my door, and rapped. Accordingly I went out in my Shift, and John Swan opened the Street door and let me out: That done, I alarmed the Neighbourhood. And I do folemnly declare, that I do not know that any Person was concerned in the Murder of my deceafed Uncle, but myfelf, and John Swan; for that Matthews did not come to my Uncle's House the Day before, or Night in which the Murder was committed, as I know of. Elizabeth Jeffreys.

Taken and acknowledged, March 12, 1752.

Miss Jeffries has further confessed, That her Uncle took her from her Father when she was sive Years old; and that, when she was Sixteen, her said Uncle debauched her: That she lived in a continual State of Incest with him (having had two Miscarriages by him,) till about a Year before his Death, when he slighted her in savour of another Woman. His repeated Neglects of her, and his threatening to alter us Will, which she knew had been made entirely in her Favour, were the Motives that induced her to perpetrate the Murder; for which she is sentenced to die.

The Last Will of Mr. Joseph Jeffreys, Uncle to Miss Jeffreys; extracted from the Registry of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

In the Name of God, Amen. I Joseph Jeffreys, of the Parish of St. Mary-Woolnerto, London, Butcher, being in good Health of Body, and of sound and disposing Mind, Memory and Understanding, Thanks be to Almighty God for the same, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament, in manner sollowing: That is to say: In the first Place, I commit my Soul to God that gave it, and my Body to the Earth, to be decently buried, according to the Listertion of my Executors herein after named, in

the Church-yard of the Parish-Church of Waltham -Ano, in the County of Effex, as near my Wife as possible: And as to such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me withal, I give, devise, bequeath, and dispose thereof as follows ; Item, I will that all my just Lebts, and funeral Charges be paid and satisfied; Item, I give, devise, and bequeath, unto my Niece Elizabeth Jeffreys, all that my Mes-suage, or Tenement, with the Appurtenances thereunto belonging, fituate and being in Bucklersbury, held by Leafe, of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, London, to hold to her, her Executors, Administrators, and Affigns, for the Remainder of the Term of Years to come and unexpired. I also give, and bequeath, unto my said Niece, Elizateth Jeffreys, the Sum of One Thousand Pounds of lawful Money of Great-Britain. I also give and bequeath unto the said Elizabeth Jeffreys, all my Houshold Goods, Implements of Houshold, Linen, Woollen, Plate, and China, of what Kind or Nature soever, that I shall be possessed of at the Time of my Decease; as also my Diamond Ring, and my Wife's Gold Watch; Item, I give and bequeath the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds unto my Nephew Joseph Jeffreys, Son of my Brother Francis Jeffreys, to be paid him at his arriving at the age of Thirty Years, and to be laid out for him in Government Securities ; Item, I give and bequeath to the eldeft Son of my late Brother Thomas Jeffreys, the Sum of Fifty Pounds; and to my Sister Elizabeth Harding, the Sum of Twenty Pounds: Item, I give and bequeath, unto all, and every the Children of the faid Elizabeth Harding, the Sum of Ten Pounds each. And my Will is, that all my faid Legacies be paid within three Months next after my Decease; Item, all the rest, Residue and Remainder of my Estate, and Estates, whether Real, Copyhold, or Personal, of what Nature or Kind soever; and wheresoever lying and being, and not herein before disposed of, I give, devise, and bequeath the fame, and every Part thereof, unto my faid Niece Elizabeth Jeffreys, her Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns, for ever. And I do hereby make, nominate, constitute and appoint, my faid Niece Elizabeth Jeffreys, fole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament, hereby reveking, and making void, all former and other Will and Wills, by me, at any Time, heretofore made. In Witness whereof I have, to two Parts of this my last Will and Testament, both of the same Date and Tenor, fet my Hand and Seal, this 30th Day of October, in the Year of our Lord, one thousand feven hundred and forty-fix, and in the twentieth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Second, over Great-Britain, and so forth. The Mark of Joseph Jeffreys, - figned, sealed, published, and declared, by the said Joseph Jeffreys, the Testator, as and for his last Will and Testament, in the Prefence of us who have hereunto subscribed our Names as Witnesles, in the Presence of the said Testator.

> John Strong, George Wilfons, Robert Goodyere.

Froved at London, the fixth Day of July, 1751, before the worshipful Robert Chapman Doctor of Laws, and Surrogate, by the Oath of Elizabeth Jeffreys, Spinster, the Niece of the deceased, and sole Executrix named in the said Will; to whom Administration was granted, being first sworn duly to administer.

July, 1751.



William Legard, Peter St. Eloy, Henry Stevens, Deputy-Regi ers.

THE

John Swan, and Elizabeth Jeffreys, Spinster.

N Monday Evening, March 9, the Honourable Mr. Justice Wright, Judge of the Affize, opened the Court, when John Swan, and Elizabeth Jeffreys, presented their Prayer, to be try'd, bail'd, or acquitted, at this Affize, when his Lordship was pleased to order their Trial to come on the Wednesday following. Accordingly on Wednesday, March 12, about Six in the Morning, John Swan and Elizabeth Jeffreys, Spinster, charged with the Murder of Mr. Joseph Jeffreys of Walthamstow, committed on the 3d of July, 1751, were

brought to the Bar, before the honourable Justice Wright, and their Indicament, which was found by the Grand Jury the Day before for the faid horrid and barbarous Murder being read to them, they pleaded, Not Guilty, and accordingly put themselves on their Trials for the same. When some Debates arose by the Prisoners Council against trying them on that Indictment, as they had been arraigned and pleaded to another last Affizes for the faid Murder; but after some time it was overruled, and they were arraigned on the Indictment found on Tuesday.

U Brandison Wells. Andrew Boreham, Fames John Chapman, Daniel Pylot, Thomas Waters, Joseph Hall, challenged by Miss Jeffreys. Thomas Seabroke,

The Council for the Crown then opened the Caufe, wherein was fully re- particular Aggravations of that Murder presented the horrid Nature of Murder, now to be examined into; remarked, that

R Y. George Bailey, George Cope, Hugh Bantoff, Patrick Seed, Thomas Scot, Charles Green.

Justice and common Humanity, and the its Inconfistency to all the Notions of tho' the main Evidence against the Prisonots at the Bar was only circumstantial, yet even that, when laid together, would produce as plain and positive Evidence, almost as full as possibly could be.

That the murdered Person, Mr. Joseph Jeffreys, having by Industry in the Discharge of his Business, as a Butcher, acquired a considerable Fortune, chose to leave off Trade and to spend his Life at Walthamstow, and enjoy the Fruits of his Labours; his Niece, Elizabeth Jeffreys, likewise liv'd with him. John Swan, the other Prisoner at the Bar, had been a considerable Time in his Service; the Manner of Life that passed between him and Miss Jeffreys was by no Means honourable.

That he would enter on the Circumflances previous to the Murder, those that accompanied it, and those that sollowed afterwards.

That the young Gentlewoman and the other Prisoner at the Bar, did often converse together in a very improper Manner: That there were great Disorders of Drinking, so as drew on them the Resentment of her Uncle; whereupon he declared to her, If you don't alter this your Course of Life, and leave these Irregularities, I will alter my Will, and will not leave you a Farthing: Which was the chief Thing that induced them to undertake this horrid Design.

That their Minds were extremely divided about the Measures to pursue their horrid Design, and how to accomplish it in the properest Manner; sometimes one Scheme was proposed to effect it, at other Times another, until at last they brought themselves to commit this fatal Deed.

That she thought it a proper Way to keep him out late at Night, that so they might affect their wicked Purposes; or to find him intoxicated at a mid-night Hour, that so they might accomplish their horrid Designs; and that they would be ready to prove this.

And that, in order more effectually to bring it about, they both applied to one Thomas Matthews, who then lived as a Servant to the deceased Mr. Feffreys, and whom they thought as the properest Man for performing this Work; that he had been taken into Service by Mr. Feffreys when under Necessity, and that though he stay'd but a few Days in his Service, yet it was long enough to be thought by them a fit Instrument for their Purpose.

That the Prisoner at the Bar, Elizabeth Jeffrey's, order'd him to go up Stairs in a Room adjoining to the House, in Order to clean some Chairs, and a Chest of Drawers; that he accordingly went there, that she followed him, and after she had been some Time there, she began a Discourfe with him, asking him what he would do to get one hundred Pounds? that he being tempted by fo great a Sum, asked what she required of him to do, to which she replied, go down to John Swan in the Garden, and he will tell you what to do; that according to the Direction of Miss Elizabeth Jeffreys, he went down to Swan, and told him, his Mistress talked of his having a hundred Pounds for fomewhat to be done, and he wanted to know what it was; that Swan smiled, and would not talk with him in an open Place, but had him up in a private Place of the Garden, and there told him, what the Affair was, that it was to murder the old Gentleman his Mafter. That Matthews to get fo large a Sum, feem'd to doubt, and to stand on it, but did not care to engage in the Affair; but that this Gentlewoman came to him, and engaged in Discourse with him, and talk'd with him privately; however, the Affair was not yet determined; that Matthews did not continue long in Mr. Jeffreys Service, but afterwards there were feveral Discourses passed between Swan and Matthews, in relation to this Affair; that they went to London together, and was at Mr. Gali's, at White Graphel, where being in Liquor, Swan quarrelled with the People of the House, and challenged to fight the best Man in the House for a Guinea; and that he being discovered to have Pistols about him, alarmed the People of the House; accordingly Mr. Ball applied to the Watch, and had both Swan and Matthews taken into Custody, and that they were committed to the Cage for the Night, and the next Morning being had before Sir Samuel Gower, they were by him committed to Bridewal, where they were conined for some Hours, but got their Liberty by Miss Jeffreys Means; that she went herself and procured their Discharge, and that at a very improper Time, at Four o'Clock in the Morning; the got these Persons released, the owned the Pistols belonged to her, and that she fent them to London to be repaired. That Swan and Matthews being releafed, they parted Company, but Swan ordered Matthews to meet him on the Road; accordingly they went to the Oxford Grey, and proceeded to the Buck at Walthamstow.

That Swan and he the next Sunday, walked into the Forest, and had private Discourse together, and all tended to the same Purpose, and to let him know that Mr. Gailant would take Mr. Jeffreys out with him, and that would be the only Time to Effect their Purposes. That Miss Jeffreys came to them to the same Place, and both of them appointed the Night for accomplishing the Murder.

That the very Night when this Affair happened, Matthews attended at the Garden Gate according to the Agreement; this was on the 3d Day of July last, and was introduced by Swan into the Pantry, and concealed behind some Barrels or Tubs there. That both these Prisoners came there, talked with him, instructed him, and told him when would be the proper Time to make the Attempt,

when the Uncle was gone to Bed and fail afleep.

That there was another Circumstance, Mils Jeffreys was very pressing that Night, for her Uncle to go to Bed, was almost angry with him, for what Purpose you may Judge. The Uncle being gone to Bed, both the Prisoners at the Bar went out into the Garden, and talked a confiderable Time together; after which, Swan went immediately to Bed without any Orders of his Master. That afterwards when the Mafter was gone to Bed, both the Prisoners at the Bar came to Matthews where he was concealed, and told him, when would be the proper Time; and between One and Two o'Clock, both came to him, and told him, now was the Time.

That this Man's Heart failed him, and would not let him purfue the Resolution, notwithstanding the Instigation of Swan, and such a large Sum of Money offer'd, he said, he did not care to execute such Cruelty.

That on this they called him Villain and Rascal, to undertake a Thing and not go thro' it: Swan threatned to shoot him, if he did not do it: That very little Time after this the Pistol went off That Matthews immediately went off, and never was in our Power till, very providentially, we had Intelligence of him, though he was suspected by many in the Neighbourhood.

On this, had it been done by Thieves in the House, it might reasonable be immagined, these Prisoners would immediately have alarmed the Family; and yet it is very surprizing, that the these very Prisoners lay on the same Floor with Mr. Jeffreys, and very thin Partitions between their Rooms, yet they endeavoured to make it appear, that none of these Persons heard the Report of the Pistol; but they alarmed the House, and made a Discovery, but the Time and the Manner

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will appear far from being an Argument of their Innocence; though the Report of the Pistol was heard by some Persons at a great Distance, yet they pretended they heard nothing of it; though they did raise a Noise and an Outcry, yet it was three Quarters of an Hour after the Report of the Pistol was heard by Persons in the Neighbourhood: That when they made this Alarm, they talked of Men running down Stairs, saying, Let us fire the House; and this Outcry was three Quarters of an Hour after the real Time when the Report of the Pistol was heard.

That when the Surgeons were called in, it can be proved, the Murder had been committed long before; that the

Blood had been congealed.

That the Fact was done by a Pistol, and the Deceased was shot near the left Side of his Ear, and there was a Pistol and also a Knife found near the Deceased's Bed; and it was actually the very Pistol of the Deceased, and the Knife was likewise his own.

That if any Rogue or Foreigner had broke into the House, it is reasonably to be supposed, they would have brought their own Arms with them; but for them to use Arms that constantly hung up in the Kitchen, is a Point not rationally to be supposed, but it must be done by Persons intimate in the House.

That a Witness, Sarah Arnold, will testify she saw Swan sit Bullets to the Pistols, and that the Cuttings was observed leveral Hours on the Hearth, after the

Fact was committed.

That this Thomas Matthews was inclined to go into a distant Part of the World, and therefore entered himself into the Service of the East-India Company, as a Soldier, and was just ready to go abroad, but in the mean Time was seen coming out of the India House and an Enquiry being made at the Rendezvous, he was met with there, but for some Time denied

his Name, and said his Name was Thomas Smith; but being afterwards closely asked, he owned his Name was Matthews, and that he had been intimate with John Swan, and that he said, Don't be too hard on me, and I will confess the Truth. That this shewed his Guilt pursued him; and thus, in this providential Manner, is this Person brought as an Instrument to discover the Truth.

That a Witness will declare, That Mr. Teffreys ordered all the Doors to be fastened when he went to Bed, and that they were all fastened by her when she went to Bed: She likewise will acquaint you, that Miss Teffreys was very pressing for her Uncle to go to Bed that Night; that the Blood had been a long Time congealed; that the Bell-rope by his Bed-fide was cut or broke, in order to prevent calling for Affistance: These Things were referred to the Consideration of the Jury, it being apprehended there would be no Difficulty in their forming their Verdict, as these Particulars would appear strongly supported by Evidence.

The Council for the Crown farther ex-

patiated on the Case.

That Mr. Jeffreys was a kind Mafter to John Swan; that thereupon there was the greatest Obligation on him, not to be the Contriver of this Villainy. What a Shudder must humane Nature receive, when it recollects there is no Place where Security may be depended upon, but at the fame Time Persons are barring their Doors from Thieves without, they are inclosing worse Enemies within: Nay, the nearest Ties of Kindred are no Security. How amazing is it, that in this prefent polite Age, one fingle Year affords more Instances of the most unnatural Barbarity than a whole Age has done: How great is our Degeneracy, a flagrant Proof of which is, the Persons now to take their Trials; that the farther we are departed from the Rudeness and Ignorance of our Ancestors, Ancestors, we are also departed from their Virtue and Innocence; If these Facts had been the Acts of those Hands best suited to these Purposes, some Villain, the Out-cast of the People, and whose Act it is to do Violence to their fellow Creatures, the Crime would not have appeared so flagrant; but the Honour of humane

Nature is here degraded.

That the Evidence that will be produced against the Prisoners at the Bar, is only circumstantial Evidence, yet, that it is fo ftrong, fo convincing, as to amount to a Prefumption of the Offence; that Prefumption that will arise to a Conviction; there will not remain the least That the unfortunate Per-Doubt of it. fon deceased had been in considerable Trade; had acquired an ample Fortune as enabled him to leave off his Business and retire into the Country. The only Thing he wanted to compleat his Happiness was a Child, as a Companion of his Age, a Partaker of his Fortune while living, and an Inheritor of it after his Death. This was early supplied by his Brother, who had a numerous Family: accordingly he placed his Affection on one of them, the Prisoner at the Bar, his Niece, took her into his House, and behaved in every Respect to her as an indulgent Father, furnified her with all genteel Accommodations in Life, and left her by his Will to the Enjoyment of his whole Fortune; this kind Intention he frequently mentioned, while her Behaviour was regular, as an Inducement to be dutiful, but when the became negligent in her Behaviour, he declared an Intention to alter his Will, if the did not alter her Courfe.

She had not Patience to wait for the Possession; she was conscious of her own ill Behaviour, and had no Disposition to alter her Course of Life; and she did not want a Person near at hand to encourage her Intentions.

The other Prisoner at the Bar, to whom the Deceased has been to kind a

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Master, tho' he was offended with the Familiarity between his Niece and him, and from that Time meditated this Villany, in Conjunction with her, and they foon found a Person for their Purpose, a poor fimple Fellow who had been employed by the Goodness of his Master, and was taken by him into his Service for some small Time; this was the Perfon proposed to execute their Design, and to leave them in the Possession of his Fortune. To this Person they opened their Defigns, shewed how easy to cicape after, the Fact was committed, and strengthened their Arguments with Offers of very great Rewards. This poor Man, for a confiderable Time rejected their Persuasions, but as Wickedness, when it is cloathed in rich Attire, is a tempting Object to Poverty and Diffress, had at last its Effects to flagger him, the not in the End to produce the Effects expected.

The Manner in which it was to be done, conducted into the House, hid in a fecret Place, and then to be vifited and promised all the Comfort in their Power; but at the Time the Execution was to be performed, the Favours he had received from his Master obliged him to refuse it. No Threats, no Abuses, no Temptations whatever would tempt him to alter his Refolutions. On which, the Prifoner at the Bar faid, if that is the Cafe, he must do it himfelf, and they went up with a full Intent to do it themselves. He heard the Pistol go off before he went out of the House. If Credit is to be given to the Evidence that is to be produced, there is to be made no more Doubt who committed this Crime, and what Reston can there possibly be to doubt the Veraint of this Evidence. His Poverty can be no Objection when he was to receive to large a Reward for the Lact a rear in his tane plicity; for he would have been the properce Person to have engaged in it. I know he acknowledge handest a tradition tecause he had first undertaken the Deed? to we've mielf a Liar. Are the Prifoncts a the Par the lefs innecent of it, if it flood on the Strength of the one Evidence? would this induce you to acquit him, but when there are a Number of Witnesies, it cannot be doubted; Circumstances to corroborate this Evidence

are various and ftrong.

The Evening before the Fact was committed, he was let into the House by one of the Prisoners at the Bar, and after he was fecreted, Swan retired, and Miss Feffreys returned to the Company of her Uncle, preffing him to go to Bed; those Intimacies that were observ'd between the Prisoners at the Bar, Appointments made from Time to Time, whifpering, confulting together, as if they had fome dark Purposes to Defign. He was fhot by his own Piftol, probably by his own Powder and Ball. It may be objected, that there was no Sign of the Murder on their Perfons, no Blood on their Linnen; to which it might be replied, that it was three Quarters of an Hour after the Pistol went off before the Discovery was made, in this Time it was no difficult Thing to remove those Things away. There is one Circumstance will fpeak exceeding strong, which is that of a Person who had a little more Forecast than the rest, he asked the deceased when he lay expiring, if he knew him, and as a Token, he should hold up his Hand, which he accordingly did, and he asking him if he knew who the Person was who had done this Mischief, if so, he should hold up his Hand, which the poor Man accordingly did. That there were Numbers of these Sort of Evidences, but that it was unnecessary to mention more, only one, which was, that instead of that Agony and Diffress that might be supposed every one might express on so melancholy an Occasion, there were less

Sorrow shown on this Occasion than No stand invent a Story, in order might be reasonably expected from Perfons in those Circumstances, or for Perfons who did not meet with fo violent a Death. John Swan was drunk almost the whole Day afterwards; and as to the Neice, tho' it was her Duty to have all the Comfort necessary for her Uncle, was more careful to fecure the Box of Wriings, wherein the Will was deposited, and her Uncle was committed to the Care of a Surgeon (according to Information) of but finall Experience. In fhort, there was but little or no Concern shewn on the Occasion.

> We shall now proceed to examine the Evidences, in order to prove the Charge against the Prisoners at the Bar.

Edward Buckle. Sworn.

Who deposed, that he liv'd at Walthamstow, on July last, that his House was about thirty Yards diftant from Mr. Jeffreys; that he remembers the Murder of Mr. Feffreys, on the 3d of July, that about half an Hour after Two in the Morning, he heard Miss Jeffreys make an Outcry, accordingly I got up and went to the House, and faw Miss Feffreys stand at the Door; I said to her. what do you stand so in this Manner, fhe had fomething loofe about her Shoulders; I went to the Door, and she cried, They have killed, they have killed bim, I fear. She faid, Go fee after my Uncle, they have killed him, they have killed him, I fear.

Prisoner, Miss Jeffreys, I deny it. Court. Madam, you shall be heard at a proper Time.

Where did you fee John Swan?

Buckle. John Swan, met me after he had unbolted or unlocked the Door, he was in the Infide, and Swan faid to me, Go up and see after my Master, whom I fear some cruel Rogues have killed. I went up Stairs directly and observed Mr. Jeffreys Wounds, they were on the lest Side of his Head (pointing to the Place) he was not dead. I put my right Hand into his Lest, and he squeezing my Hand, said nothing to me.

Court. How soon after did you see the

Prisoner Miss Jeffreys at the Bar?

Buckle. Very foon after, crying and lamenting for the Lofs of her Uncle. Miss faid to me, will you go and lay an Information of my Uncle's unhappy Affair. I faid, I would, but 'tis not proper for me to go alone; she faid, take a Man with you, cost what it will, take a Man and go and give Information, that by so doing, the Villains who committed this unhappy Affair might be found out.

Court. Did she mention the Things loss?

Buckle. Mrs. Martin mentioned the Things that were lost. I can't mention

every Thing in Particular.

Court. Did you suspect any particular

Perfons?

Buckle. I said to Miss Jeffreys, If I light of Matthews, I will take him up. She said, Mr. Buckle, Dont meddle with him for you'll bring me into Trouble, and yourself to in jodoing.

Court. When was this Discourse.

Buckle. That very Morning of the 3d

of Fuly.

Prisoner Miss Jeffrey's. Are you pofitive, look to the Jury, take Care what you say, you are on your Oath.

Court. Can you remember what Goods

were loft.

Buckle. Some Peater and some Plate, a Silver Cup and a Tankard, and fifteen small Plates.

Mary Adams, Sworn.

She deposed, That she knew Mr. Feffreys very well, that she lived near him, about 40 Yards; that she heard no Noise in the Night the Murder was committed, untill she heard the Report of a Gun or Pistol, at about Half an Hour after Two in the Morning; that she heard the A-larm, or Out-cry, about three Quarters of an Hour after the Pistol or Gun was discharged; that she went to Mr. Feffreys's House in the Morning, and saw the Deceased, but being in great Surprize, and big with Child, she could not stay in the Room; that she helped on Miss Feffreys Shoes, for Miss said she had hurt her Ancles by getting out of Window; that there were a great many Persons there before her.

John Swan, Prif. This Woman lives 10 Yards farther than the other, who did not mention to have heard the Noise of

the Piltol.

Court. So much the worfe, that the Noife was heard fo much farther.

Thomas Matthews. Sworn.

Court. Did you know Mr. Jeffreys? Matthews. Yes, my Lord.

Court. What was the first Occasion of

your knowing him?

Matthews. As I was coming over Epping Forest, I saw John Swan and Mr. Jeffreys there on the Road, and after he had enquired where I came from, he took me into his Service, and sent me home with John Swan, and I worked with John Swan all that Day; I had no Money for my Work, having nothing to support me, I told him I would work for my Bread; I entered on Service in Mr. Jeffreys's House, had no Wages, nor had I agreed for any.

Court. How long did you continue with

Mr. Feffreys?

Matthews. I worked for him nine Days, and fived all the Time at his House.

Court. What Family had Mr. Jeffreys

at the Time you lived with him?

Matthews. A Maid and John Swan, my Master, and Miss Jeffreys and a little Child.

House?

Matthews. Yes.

Court. What Bufiness did John Swan do in the House?

Matthews. As a Gardener; and he had no other Man besides him.

Court. Where did you go after Mr.

Teffreys had discharged you?

Matthews. I went to work with Mr. Hughes, in Wood-street at Walthamstow, Mr. Hughes's House is about four or five hundred Yards from Mr. Jeffreys's. I worked with him two Days in his Service, as a Farmer's Servant, and then I difcharged myfelf from him.

Court. While you lived with Mr. Jeffreys did not Miss Jeffreys desire you to go up Stairs, and wipe down the Chest of Drawers and a few Chairs?

Matthews. Yes, my Lord. Court. Was it a Chamber?

Matthews. It was a Room adjoining to the House, in the Back-way, a fingle Room only, and there was a Pair of Stairs leading up to that Room. Accordingly I went up Stairs to wipe down the Chest of Drawers, and the Chairs.

Cour,. When you was in the Room did Miss feffreys come up into the Room?

Matthews. Miss Feffreys came up to me and opened the Cheft of Drawers, the came up after me, and I fell to wiping them; she then said to me, What would you do to get a hundred Pounds? I faid, I was willing to earn it if in an honest way: She told me I must go to John Swan, and he would tell me. I went to John Swan as foon as I came down Stairs, which was in about a Quarter of an Hour, he was in the Garden, I told him that Miss feffreys offered me a hundred Pounds, and he was the Person that was to resolve me what I was to do for it; on this John fmiled, and called me into a private Place in an Out-house in the Garden, and there he told me, That if I would take on

Court. Then Mils Jeffreys was in the to knock the old mifer his mafter on the Head, he would give me 700 l. Miss Jeffreys was in the Yard at the fame Time, I looked and faw her, and the came into the Out-house while we were there, and then she entered into other Discourse.

Court. Did she hear this Saying about

the 700 l.?

Matthews. She heard it; she heard what Discourse passed between us both. She was close at the Time. She faid she was willing, for she had not a Moment's Peace while that Mifer was alive. She likewife faid to the Gardener, If I would take on me to knock the old Mifer on the Head, she would see the Money paid.

Court. After this Discourse passed, do you remember or recollect Festreys or Swan had any Discourse with you about

this Matter?

Matthews. Swan had, but Miss Feffreys had not; he spoke to me several Times about it, before I went to live at Mr. Hughes's. He shew'd me the Pistols he faid he had bought to shoot his Master as he took a walk out in the Evening. Miss Jeffreys was not by at any of these Discourses. He talked to me in this manner nine or ten Times, at none of which times Miss feffreys was present. After I left Mr. Teffreys's Service; I went and worked two Days at Mr. Hughes's.

Court. While at Hughes's, did Swan fay any thing to you about the murder.

Matthews. He never called after me when at Hughes's, and never faid any thing to me about the murder while at Hughes's.

Court. Those two Days you were at Hughes's, in any of those days did Swan

not speak any thing to you?

Matthews. He spake to me after I had done work, and asked me how I did; how I went on, and to drink some Beer: but no word about the murder; and he would have me to the King's Head (meaning the Duke's Head) in Woodstreet in

Walthamstow, the next Public House to ing was burnt, which being observed, the Mr. Jeffreys's, and told me, if I wanted Liquor he would pay for it; but not a word about the murder.

Coat was taken up and the Pockets found to be heavy, on which they were search'd, and there they found the Pistols: I saw

Gourt. Did he talk any thing about buy-

ing Piftols?

Matthews. No, not at that Time, but after I was discharged from Mr. Hughes's, he gave me Half a Guinea to buy a Pair of Pistols.

Court. What was you to do with those Pistols?

Matthews. It was to shoot his master as he came home from Chelsea.

Court. Swan had Pistols before, and

you was to buy others?

Matthews. But I bought none. I went to Low-Layton, at the Green-man, there I fpent the money; and the day after I had fpent the money, Swan overtook me on the road, and we went together to the Green-man and Bell, in White-chapel, one Mr. Gall. I cannot tell what day of the month it was, but it was about Six in the Afternoon when we came to Gall's house.

Court. When you came to Gall's house,

had you any Liquor?

Matthews. Swan overtook me on the road, and was almost drunk, and said unto me, Where are you going to? I told him, to London; and he gave me Three-pence to buy a Quart of Beer, and called for half a pint of Wine at the Green-man, at Low-Layton.

Court. Was there any thing passed between Swan and you, before you came

to Gall's house?

Matthews. No; we came to Gall's house about Six in the Asternoon, and there we had Beer, and staid till eleven o' Clock at Night; and Swan got up and challenged the best man in the house to fight him for a Guinea; and I being in liquor, we both stript, and Swan's Coat was thrown on the fire, whereby the line-

Coat was taken up and the Pockets found to be heavy, on which they were fearch'd, and there they found the Pistols: I faw the Piffols, and Mr. Gall took them, and I faw them in Mr. Gall's Hands, but did not fee him take them out of his Coat. Pockets; and there being a Watchman in the House, Mr. Gall ordered him to call fome more Watchmen, and they came in and carried us both to the Cage. Swan pulled out of his pocket three Rings, which he faid he was going to pawn, in order to get some money for Miss Jeffreys. We were detained in the Cage all the Night, and the next morning we were carried before Sir Samuel Gower, who after Examination committed us both to Clerkenwell Bridewell, where we continued for twenty-four Hours, until Miss Yeffreys came and released us. She came to the Justice, and we were carried again before Sir Samuel Gower, and then Miss Jeffreys was there. I cannot fay what passed between Miss Jeffreys and the Justice, but the Justice ordered us both to be discharged, and after we were discharged, we went back together to Gall's House again.

Court. Was any Thing faid about the

Rings?

Matthews. No, Swan parted from me then, and gave me a Shilling, and order'd me to meet him at the Yorkshire Gray, between White Chappel and Stratford, John Swan, and Miss Jeffreys, and one Thomas Smith, went in a Coach, and I walked to the Yorkshire Gray after them, and there I found them all three.

Court. When you found them there,

can you recollect what passed.

Matthews. I could not hear what passed, for they were in the Parlour, and John Swan came out, and gave me half a Crown, and appointed me to meet him the next Day at the same House.

Court. Did you do fo?

Matthews. I did, but Swan did not B come

come untill Seven in the Evening; Miss Jeffreys was not there that Day.

Court. What followed.

Matthews. Smith was to go to make up Matters at Home, that Swan might come home again to his Mafter. Tom Smith faid, he did not know the Way, and Swan faid, I was to fhew him. I did not hear the Words that paffed between Swan and Smith; but I shew'd Tom Smith the Way, and afterwards Smith and I went back again, Smith told me, Miss had made up Matters with her Uncle, and when we came back to Swin, which was the very fame Afternoon, and he told me, to meet him again upon Epping Forrest, Sunday at Two o'Clock in the Afternoon. I faw him on the Sunday, and we had Talk together, and I was to come at Six o'Clock to the Buck that very Day, on the Sunday. Swan came to the Buck, and we was at the Buck together, but not a Word paffed of the Murder there; we tlayed about an Hour together, and then Swan went Home, and I went to Low Layton; I faw him about Two o'Clock on Monday afterwards, when we continued together about two or three Hours.

Court. Was any Thing faid of a Time,

or a proper Time.

Matthews. I can't remember, but from thence I went to Epping, and stayed there four Days, which is about twelve Miles diffant, and then I came back to Wal. thamflow, which was on the Saturday; and the first Time I saw Swan again, was on the Monday following, and that was at the Buck, about Six in the Morning, and then he told me, to meet him the next Day at a Public House by Walthamstow Church; about Three o'Clock in the Afternoon; accordingly I went there the next Day Tuesday, at the Time appointed, and was there before Swan came, and when he came Miss Jeffrey's came there also, and no Body else, there we talked all three together.

Court. Tell what passed.

Matthews. They order'd me, that I must come the Tuesday following to the Back of Mr. Jeffreys Garden, at Ten o'Cleck at Night, and John Swan was to meet me there, and faid, he would give me fome Money, and that he would leave the Garden-door open; when I came to the Garden, the Door was not open, nor did I see Swan, but waited two Hours before I faw Swan, who came to me about Twelve o'Clock; I did not fray long in the Garden. John Swan told me, he would give me fome Money to knock the old Miser his Master on the Head, there was no Person then there besides. I was to go into the Pantry, and I got into the Pantry, and John Swan brought me some Victuals, and I stayed behind a Tub until John Swan and Miss Jeffreys came; Swan came to me first, and then Miss; I saw them, and Miss Feffreys said, now is the Time to knock your Master on the Head; and I faid, I can't find in my Heart to do it; Miss Jeffreys said, Damn you, you Villain do it.

Prisoner, Miss Jeffreys. Matthews, look to the Jury, consider what you

far

Matthews. Swan then clapped his Hand into his Pocket, and drew out a Book to put me to my Oath, and I put my Hand on the Book, and took my Oath never to blow it, and then Swan faid, the Piftols were loaded, one with Slugs, the other with Ball.

Court. What was they both to do.

Matthews. To shoot Misses Uncle, and Swan said, G—d D—n your Blood, I have a great Mind to shoot you, and to blow your Brains out, because you will not perform according to your Promise, and I told him, I could not find in my Heart to do it. They parted directly from me, and went both up Stairs, and left me below still in the Pantry, and in about half an Hour after, they were gone

heard no more, nor faw no Body afterwards: I went away directly, through Walthamstow, and made away for the Ferry for Endfield Chace and for London, and went down into Kent, and staid all the Harvesting.

You make them any Promise for such an

Undertaking?

Matthews. I made them the Promise

when going to London.

Court. When was the last Time of making the Promise; was there any Thing of that Kind passed at the Buck, or the Alehouse by Walthamstow Church.

Matthews. Yes, at the Buck; but at the Alehouse near Walthamstow Church, I can't say there was; John Swan spoke to me, and said, Damn you, what do you get drunk for; and I said, it was with none of your Money. I was drunk at the same Time.

Words to you, if you did not do it he must do it himself?

Matthews: He told me, that if I would not do it, by God he must, for Miss Jeffreys is big with Child by him, and if the old miser should know it, they should be both banished the House.

Court. When they found that you refused this Matter, did they say what was to be done?

Matthews. They did not tell me any Word about it, they did not fay who should do it.

After my Return back from Kent to London, I endeavoured to go to the East-Indies, I went to the India House, and intended to go, but was not shipp'd. Gall came to me at a House where I was, and I told him my Name was Smith. I did not know Mr. Gall at first. He said to me, You are the man I want to speak with, you must go along with me. And I went along with him; and by the way Gall

faid to me, Is not your Name Thomas Matthews? And I faid yes.

Court. What Discourse passed at the Alehouse near Walthamstow Church, and how long was this meeting before Mr. Jeffreys was killed?

Matthews. About a Week before, when Swan and Jeffreys met me both by Appointment, and Swan faid, It was a Thing must be done.

Court. You say John Swan brought you Victuals, pray what Victuals was it?

Matthews. Beef, boiled.

Being crofs examined.

He was asked, where his place of Refidence was before? The Deponant Matthews faid, He was a New England man born, and had 3 Guineas for the Run to Hull, where he stay'd till all his money was fpent. That when he went up to clean the Cheft of Drawers and the Chairs, was the first time he ever spoke to Miss Feffreys, That the Room was adjoining to the House; and that the fent him down to John Swan, and that he found John Swan in the Garden. That he was had twice before Sir Samuel Gower, and passed under several Examinations, he can't tell how many, and gave the fame Account, as near as he could remember. That Sir Samuel's Clerk took a a Copy of the Examination. He was then asked, Whether on those Examinations, he did not fay he was put into the Hogshead, and fed through the Bunghole? To which he replied, He never faid any fuch Thing, nor gave any fuch Account. He faid he gave an Account, that he was under a Hogshead; but having been before confined in a dark Dungeon for nineWeeks; and that when a Man had been in that Condition, he might not be fo ready in giving in his Account. He faid he never was confined in the Cellar, but in the Pantry. That John Swan came to him about Twelve o'Clock, and faid,

If I would not do the Thing, the Jobb must be done. That he thought it was best to make off, when he heard the Pistol go off. Being asked, whether it was a Brace of Pillols he faw, or double Barrels; he faid, fingle Barrels: And after John Swan had brought them, he carried them both away; that he did not fee them loaded. Being afked what year, month, or day it was, he faid he could not tell. Being told that he varied to much in his Examinations before the Juffices, that they refuled to take his Examinations; that he faid he had been a Voyage to Virginia, and cast away on the Capes of Virginia, and out of the Kingdom at the Time Mr. Teffreys was murdered. He faid, he was examined fo often, that he can't remember; that he had given in what he had to fay, and had no more to answer.

Thomas Forbes, Surgeon. Sworn.

Court. Mr. Forbes, what Time was you

alarmed, and by whom?

Forbes. Between Three and Fur o'Clock, Wednesday Morning, I was alarmed by John Swan, who was on Horseback, who told me, That I must make as much Hafte as possibly I could, for a fad Accident had happened to Mr. Jeffreys: He did not tell what, or by whom. I got there in about three Quarters of an Hour. When I came up into the Room, I observed Mr. Jeffreys's Wounds, and the Blood was about the Room; I examined the Wounds, and found two Wounds, one by a Piftol, and one with a Knife; that with the Piftol was in the left fide of his Face, another Wound in the Ear, with a Stab about four Inches deep; and I took that to be mortal. There was a Knife on the Floor with a sharp point. Swan had a clean thirt on that morning.

She deposed, That she was servant to Mr. Jeffreys, lived there about sour Years, that John Swan lived there at the same Time, perhaps about two Years; that the Capacity he was in there, was to do every Thing his Master set him about; and she believes John Swan was in the House when the murder was committed.

Court. Who was with your master the Day before the murder was committed?

Arnold. Dr. Clifton and his Wife, Mrs. Martin and her two Children; who dined there the Day before the murder was committed.

Court. Did they continue there all the Afternoon?

Arnold. They went out in the Afternoon to drink Tea at the Royal Oak, and came back at Eleven o'Clock at Night, with all the Company.

Court. When they went out, did they give you any Orders abaut taking care of

the Doors.

Arnold. Yes, and I went to fasten the outer Door before they came home, and the Door in the Garden; I barr'd them and fasten'd all the outer Doors of the Garden to the Field, and all the Gates I fasten'd that were in the Garden. And the Company returned about supper Time. Dr. Cliston and Mrs. Cliston went home. Only Mrs. Martin and the Children stayed supper. John Swan waited on them. I put the Child to Bed. Of the provision in the House, boiled Beef, was one Dish.

Court. Do you remember Miss Jeffreys being out of the House with John Swan?

Arnold. They went out for a Quarter of an Hour, out of the Garden Door facing the Kitchen; and this was between Eleven and Twelve. Mrs. Martin was there at that Time. I faw them come in again. They came in separate; fohn Swan came in first, and went to Bei di-

rectly. This was about a Quarter of an Hour after they went out. It was usual for him, if he went to Bed before his mafter, to ask his Leave, but that Night he went without his usual Leave. Afterwards Miss Jeffreys came in, in a very little Time.

Court. Was flie particularly preffing to her uncle to go to bed, or the Company

to go away?

Arnold. Yes; more than usual; and the Reason she gave was, that he was in liquor and might be disorder'd in the morning: He was not quite drunk, but pretty much in liquor, very far on.

Court. Did she press him in any manner

as to be very particular?

Arnold. I did not take any notice of it then, but reflected on it afterwards.

Court. Did she press Mrs. Martin to go

away?

Arnold. Yes; and she went away about Twelve; and about half an Hour after, my mafter, Mifs, and I, went up ftairs all together; and before I went up stairs, I fastened all the doors and windows, the back door as well as the reft, and I heard no more until the Alarm was given in the morning. I did not lie on the fame floor with my master, but in the upper part of the House. Mr. Jeffreys and Miss lay on the fame floor, there was but a very thin partition between them; John Swan lay on the fame floor farther off. There was a door on my Staircase which I likewise locked. I heard nothing of the piftol's going off. John called me to come down, for he was afraid there were thieves in the house; it was day-light when he called me; it was on the 3d of July. As foon as I came down I enquired where my master was. John Swan faid, be believed he was dead or murdered. I ran directly into my master's room, and found him lying on his back, his legs drawn up, rat ling in his throat. I put my hand on his wounds, and found the

blood quite congealed; I faw a knife in the room by the bed-fide; it was my mafter's knife; it was called his working knife; it lay the day before upon the bench at the Garden-door, going out of the Kitchen; she particularly knew it lay there then, because she had then given meat to the Cats, and used that knife to cut it out for them. The knife was not bloody, I could not perceive any Sign of blood upon it. Some time of the day I faw the piffol, the pieces of the piffol were pulled out from the bed under my mafter, it looked like a piftol that had been burft, and there were some pieces of the iron-work; the pieces of the piftol lay together, and being joined looked like the pieces of a pittol that had been

Court. Did you observe the Bell-rope?

Arnold. Yes, my Lord; it looked as if it was either cut or broke off; which, I don't know.

Court. Did you fee any Wound in his hand?

Arnold. Yes; fome part of his Lefthand was wounded; it looked as if done with a Knife. After I came out of my master's Room, I went to the door of Mis's Room, and tried to open it, and found her door locked.

Court. Was it usual for her to have her

door locked?

Arnold. Yes, my Lord, it was usual for it to be locked. I then went up stairs into my own Room, and looked out of my window, and called out aloud that my master's Throat was cut from Ear to Ear, and I saw Miss Jeffreys in the Yard with something loose over her Shoulders.

Court. Did she get out of the Win-

dow ?

Arnold. I don't know that.

Court Was there any of the Neighbours got about the house?

Arnold. Yes, a great many flood round, none were got into the house at that time.

time. When I came down, I found the back door open that goes into the Yard, but I did not observe that the house was broke open. It was usual for my master's pistols to hang in the Kitchen over the Pire-place.

Court. Did your maffer keep any Pow.

der or Ball in the house?

Arnold. Yes, my Lord, in a drawer in the Kitchen.

Court. Did you observe, after this, that

those Pistols were in their Places?

Arnold. After I came down, some time in the morning, I saw one of the Pistols was gone; John Swan observed it and said, one of my master's Pistols is gone.

Court. Did you observe the Powder and

Ball was gone?

Arnold. No, my Lord, I did not obferve that, for the Drawer used to be lock'd.

Court. Was the Key in the usual place?
Arnold. I did not observe the Key of
Powder and Ball was remov'd. I obferved some Chips of the Bullets lay about
the Kitchen floor.

Court. Did you observe any Differences between your master and Miss Jef-

freys ?

Arnold. My master did not like she should be seen so much conversing with John Swan, because People took notice of it; and he used to be angry with her fometimes, because she would not come into fuch methods as he would have her, and was displeased with her manner of Life, and threatened he would turn her out of doors. I heard him tell Mrs. Martin, that he would alter his Will, and Miss Feffreys was in the Hall when he faid it, and he faid he would fettle it on Joe Martin. I have before often heard my matter fay, all I have in the world is her's. When my mafter threatened her, the feemed to be very uneafy, but I did not hear her make any Answer to her Uncle.

Court. Did you know where your stafter's Will used to be kept?

Arnold. Yes, my Lord; in a little box, on an iron Cheft, by his bed-fide, and that box was gone that morning.

Anthony Gallant, fworn.

Court. Did you know Mr. Jeffreys?

Gallant. Yes, my Lord; I was well acquainted with him; he was a good Friend of mine.

made to you by Miss Jeffreys, to take

her Uncle out.

Gallant. The Week before Mr. 7effreys was murder'd, John Swan came to my Shop, and told me, Miss Jeffreys wanted to speak with me, and that I must go to the Garden-gate, and she would come to me; accordingly I went, and in a little Time she came to me, it was on a Tuesday the 25th of June, and desired me to make a Tate for a Lady of her Aequaintance, and after she waved that Discourse, and defired me to take her Uncle fome Day out with me to Buckets-Hill, (which is about four Miles distant) and keep him out until it was pretty late at Night; and make him pretty much in Liquor, and if I spent Half a Crown or Crown, the would give me the money, and fomething for myfelf. I answered her, My Bufiness would not permit me at that Time; to which she replied, Dear Gallant, do if possible, do it this Week, if it can't be done this Week, it must be done next; I shall soon have Money, and if you want two or three Guineas, I will lend it you, and not hurry you for the Payment of it. She told me, she wanted to be out all Night, and when her Uncle was in Liquor, he did not use to enquire after her. I asked her, how we must order it with Sarah (meaning the Maid Servant) the faid, the would bring her over. The Tuesday following, the Accident happened, my Man was at her House, and she sent Word by him, that the wanted to speak with me; I went over, and the bid me alk her Uncle to go out that Day, which was the Day before his Death; I did ask him, but he gave me no politive Answer, and so we did not go out, it was about Noon when I was there; I had been out feveral Times with Mr. Feffreys, particularly the 24th of June, we went to Chelsea, and came home at Two o'Clock in the Morning.

Court. Had you any Conversation with John Swan after the Murder was com-

Gallant. I asked John where that Villain Matthew was, for my Heart gives me, he was concerned in it, and Swan answered, he was as innocent as a Lamb, and Miss Jeffreys throw'd herself into a Chair, and cried out, Oh! I shall die a worser Death than my Uncle did.

Court. Did you observe any improper Behaviour between Swan and Miss Fef-

Gallant. Upon my Word, I never did. Upon being cross examined, the Deponent faid, That the Summer before he had received eight Shillings to get her Uncle to go with him, in order to pay the Reckoning, and never more but that thicher as foon as possible, in seven or eight Minutes. Court. Had you any Conversation with Miss Feffreys that morning. Thornton. I enquired of her how she

Furlong distant; a working Man came for me, I don't know whither he was

ordered by any Person or no; and I went

came to be alarmed now, and not when it was done, she told me, she was afleep, and dreamed of Fire, which awakened her, and she heard four Fellows run down Stairs, curfing and fwearing, faying, now we have done all the Mischief we can, let us fet the House on Fire, with that she jumped out of Bed, and in the Fright, she jumped out of the Window; that after the leaped out, the cried, Fire, Fire, three Times, and then faid she, our Fellow came down Stairs in his Shirt, and opened the Door; Miss Feffreys also ask'd me, did you ever see a Person in such a Case as this recover? and I told her, I could not tell how to make a parallel Case, because the Balls ware in his Head; that I remember'd a Man some Time ago, who was struck with a Horse, and by the Concusion in his Head, lay five Days and Nights without speaking and yet recovered; and this was the Case with Mr. Jeffreys; I judg'd the Wounds to be mortal

James Thornton. Sworn.

Court. Mr. Thornton, did you fee Mr.

Jeffreys after he was murder'd.

Thorton. Yes, my Lord, about Three o'Clock, I found he had loft a great deal of Blood, the Blood had ran thro' the Bed, and as far as I can judge, I think the Wounds must have been received about an Hour. All the Blood was loft out of that small Artery which the Knife had parted; the Blood was cold; I did not hear the Alarm, for I live about a

William Scowley. Sworn.

Scowley. I live at Walthamstow, and Miss Jeffreys came to my Father's House at Four o'Clock in the morning, for to hire a Coach for the Day, and my Father fent me down to drive her, she feem'd to be in a Hurry, there was no Body with her, I carried her, and fet her down by White Chappel Church, and then I went to the three Nuns in White Chappel, and was ordered to go to Sir Samuel Gower's about One o'Clock; I

went

went there, and took her up and carried her into Lombard fireet, at the Corner of Abchurch Lane, and waited for her, from thence I went to the Green Man in White Chappel, and waited two Hours or more for her; then I took her up, and carried her to Woodstreet, in Walthamstow; upon the Road she stopp'd the Coach, and took John Swan and another man into the Coach, I did not know who the other man was, and she lest Swan and the other man on the Road about 100 Yards from her own House.

John Gall. Sworn.

Gall. I keep the Green Man and Bell in White Chappel, and do know John Swan, and Matthews also; about the 19th of June 1751, they came to my House.

Court. What Behaviour did you ob-

Gall. When they came in they went into the Back Kitchen, I ask'd Swan how he did, and Swan ask'd if we should not drink together, and so we had a Pint of Bumbo together; then they went into the Tap-room, and quarrelling with fome of my Customers, I faid to this Matthews, what ragged Rascal are you, I suffer no quarrelsome Company in my House, and I ask'd Swan how he came to bring that ragged Rascal to make a Riot, and Swan faid, he belonged to him; I then went to turn him out of Doors; Swan faid, if you use my Friend ill, he would thrash me, then he pull'd off his Coat to fight me; and flung it on the Kitchen Bars, the Fire being out, but the Bars being hot set the Lining of the Coat on fire; I then took up the Coat, and finding it heavy, I examined k, and found a Brace of Pistols in the Pockets, one in each Pocket; when I found the Piftols, I faid, I believe you are turned Rogue, for you carry fire Arms

in your Pockets, and as I was determined to fee, I fent a Watchman that was in my House for three or four more, and we took hold of Swan and Matthews, and carried them over to the Watch-house, and I locked them up in the Bail-dock; Swan said, I hope you won't lock me up, as we are Friends. I said, I would lock you up if you was my own Brother; while they were in the Watch-house, they found a Pair of Ear-rings in a Shagreen Case.

Next morning I carried them before fir Samuel Gower, where they were examined, who committed them both to Bridewell. I knowing Swan's master, faid I would go and fee whether he was fervant to mr. Jeffreys or not. I went accordingly to Walthamstow, to Swan's Washerwoman, and the Wamer-woman went to mr. Jeffreys, and fent miss Jeffreys down to me. When Miss came down, she told me, the Ear-rings were hers, and she had fent them to a Workman; and the Reason he had the piftols was, he had been a Journey; and that her Ear-rings had been left as a pledge for a Debt she owed, which she was not willing should come to her Uncle's Ears. 'I told her they were in Custody, and if she did not come, they would be fent to Bridewell that Night, on fuspicion of being out on the Highway; she faid she would come that night or the next morning.

The next Day she came to my House, by six o'Clock in the morning, in a coach; and she went into the room where my Wise lay, and put off somewhat women wear, and had a glass of Rum or Brandy, I can't say which, and they went down to sir Samuel Gower, and called there, and he was not up, so waited in the office, until an order could be had to fetch the prisoners to be examined; they were examined before justice Gower, and carried to the Angel in White Chappel, and they were discharged, both Swan and

Matthews

Matthews. Then it was faid, that a Gentleman was going a journey, and had fent the piftols by Swan to get cleaned.

Some confiderable time after this, a friend came to me, as I was getting up in the morning, and told me he had been at Leadenhall, and had feen Matthews, and had heard that that fellow was going a foldier to the East Indies. Accordingly I had a warrant from fir Samuel Gower, and enquired at the India House, and having fome intelligence, I went to a House called the Recruiting Officer, in Rosemary-lane, and faw Matthews there. I faid, do you know me, young man, he faid no. I faid, what is your name? my name, faid he, is Thomas Smith. I asked him if he knew John Swan? he faid no. And then I took him away. After being in cultody fome time, he confessed his name was Matthews, and that he knew who did the murder, tho' he did not do it himself; but mentioned nothing of the money. He faid he had been cast away on the Capes of Virginia; there he repeated the evidence he had given before, of miss Jeffreys taking him up into a room, and cleaning the drawers; and all this was the very day I took him, as also Swan's promiting to give him 700 l.

Being crofs examined, Whether he was not ordered by fir Samuel Gower, to make fome examination as to the ship? He said, he remembered he was desired to do it by one of the Clerks, and that he accordingly did make an enquiry, and found it to

be all a lie.

Thomas Smith. Sworn.

Court. Do you semember any thing of mis Jeffreys and Swan, at the White-Horse, Stratford, on the 21st of June last?

Smith. We went to the house of John Gall, at the Green Man and Bell in White Chappel, and Swan ordered me to go to a gardeners, and buy some flowers; and afterwards Swan and I went to White Chappel turnpike, miss Jeffreys overtook

us in a coach, and then took us both into it, and put in at the White Horse at Stratsford, and went in directly at the back door. I think either Swan or miss Jeffreys ordered them to go in at the back door; either of which he don't know. When we came there we saw Matthews sitting at the fore door, and he joined company with me. Swan, Miss, I, and the Gentlewoman of the house, went in and drank some Wine; Matthews still sat at the door, and Swan went out of the room to the door, and spoke to Matthews. We stayed there about an hour.

Court. What became of her?

Smith. She defired him to take care of John Swan, that he might not get into any Quarrel or Broil; and after that the took coach and went home, and Swan and I went to London: The next day Swan and I fet out for Walthamstow, and at Bow-Bridge we met Matthews, and all three went to the Marsh-gate Alehouse and fat down on a Bench in the Garden, and drank a Pint of Beer, and asked Matthews to drink, and he refused at first; after that we had a Quartern of Rum, a little bason, some water and sugar, and all three were in company together. Matthews and Swan whispered together, and then both went a little way into the garden. I imagined he came with a meffage for John Swan. While the Woman was giving Change, Swan and Matthows went in order to confer together. We staid there about half an hour; Swan and I went away together. We met again at the Green-man at Walthamstow; Swan then called for a Pint of Beer, and defired Matthews to go with me to Miss Jeffreys, and let her know Swan was there waiting to know how Things went at home, and Matthews was to shew me the way, which he did, and then bid me flay on the stile at the end of the Garden, and Mis would come to me. Mis accordingly came to me, and told me she had

sent a man with a Letter to London, for Swan to come down, for every thing was made easy. We then went to the Greenman and delivered the message, and Swan then gave Matthews a Shilling and bid him go to the Green man at Layton-store, and Swan and I went to the Duke's-head at Walthamssow; and the man who had been with the message came to let him know he had been with the message. I saw Swan and Miss afterwards at the Three Nuns in White chapel.

Ann Wright, fworn.

Court. Mrs. Wright, you keep the Yorkshire Gray at Stratford: Do you rem inber Mils Jeffreys and any other Perfon coming to your house about June last?

Wight. I can't remember the month not day; but Miss Teffreys and John Swan came to my house in a Coach, and staid two or three hours. Miss Jeffreys faid the had been fetching John Swan out of Confinement. After this, the cried, and faid the believ's the was damned. The morning the murder was committed, John Swan came to my house, and faid, a bad Accident had h ppened, his mafter was murdered, and defired I would get him a Horse or a Coach, and he went to Town. He said his master was shot with his own Gun, and robbed of a few trifles, a. Cup, and the like. And when he came back, he said, his master was shot with his own Piftol that used to hang up in his own Kitchen.

Court. How came he to fay that?
Wright. Please you, my Lord, I don't

Court. Was he in liquor, or not?
Wright. He seemed very sleepy, and in my opinion he had been a drinking.

John Mills Sworn.

Mills. John Swan came to my House the Morning the Murder was commited; and said he was going to Chelsea to a Gentleman's Clerk, and call'd for a Gill of

Rum and asked me, if I had heard of the murder of a Gentleman of Walrhamflow; I told him I had heard a Gentleman was shot in his bed by housebreakers. A Man standing by told him, he heard that miss jump'd out of the Window. Swan made answer, it was his neice. When he came back, the coach stopped to water their horses at my Door, and I saw him; he seem'd much in liquor, but did not see him stir or speak, all the time in the coach.

Samuel Adams Sworn.

Court. Did you hear any thing of the alarm at my Jeffreys's house the night he was murdered?

Adams. Yes, my lord, and I went there and heard mits Jeffreys cry out, fire and murder, and I went into the court, and miss Feffreys was at the chamber window, crying, there was rogues and thieves in the house, and they had set the house on fire. I saw John Swan open the door in his thirt: this was about three o' clock in the morning. And miss Feffreys desir'd him to get a ladder, for there were rogues in the house. And I having nothing to defend my felf, went to get a bill as well as a ladder. My house is about thirty yards from mr. Jeffreys, and her window was the same fide as the door, next to that over the door. John Dyer and Richard Clark were there also The maid was in the Court-yard.

Jeffery Mead Sworn.

Mead. I came into the street about seven in the morning, and was met by several neighbours; I proceeded on, and went into the house, and looked about to see whether I could find any marks of the doors or windows being broke open, where persons might enter the house, and saw a bar of a window at the back door bent, and the lead as regularly untwisted in the inside, as if done by a glazier. I apprehend it was done by some of the family.

I desir'd John Swan to give me some rakes, and thew me the ponds about the

Place that we might make a fearch, and he got two rakes, and fent for three men to fearch, and in fearching they found a new fack with some pewter and brass in it. When miss feffreys was apprehended, the faid, I hope you won't use me ill, for I gave mr, Smart a 500 l bank note that day. And, faid she, to let all the world know that mr. Feffreys did not lose his life to wrong in. Martin's children, the put her hand into her befom, and pull'd out a 1 ol. bank-note, and faid, here mrs. Martin, I give you this for you and your children, and made her a present thereof: this was as she was getting into the coach.

Mr. Gallant Sworn.

Court. Mr. Gailant do you remember the time mr. Jeffreys was murder'd?

Gallant. Yes, my lord, as foon as I could drefs my felf I went to the house and a great many perfons were there.

Court. Did you remember miss's taking any particular care about the box of writ-

ings in mr. Jeffreys's room?

Gallant. Yes, about an hour and a half after I came, she called to mrs. Buckle, and told her to go intomr. Teffreys's room; take the box of writings; carry them into her room, and lock up the room, and give her the key.

Sarah Arnold being called again, was asked, where her mafter's will was kept, the answer'd, in a little box on the iron cheft, in her mafter's room, by his bedfide; that the box was there when she fi st went into the room, and that she was fure the will was kept in that box.

Richard Clarke Sworn.

Court. Was you at mr. Jeffreys's house

the morning he was murder'd?

Clarke. Yes, my lord, and heard the outer, murder, fi e, thieves I live about fitty yards from mr. Feffreys's house; I faw mifs at the window over the door, and Swan in the court. Miss said, make all the hatte possible you can, for there are thieves in the house, and I am afraid my uncle is murdered: this was about two or three in the morning; and Swan was in his shirt. Swan said to me, he believ'd they got in at the window, and out at the door backwards, for they were both open.

I examin'd the windows and door, and found nothing broke, nor any frain; nor no track of feet in the garden, tho' 'twas

a wet dewy morning.

Court. Do you know the pond where the fack was found?

Clark. There is a fence at both fides of

Court. Had you any conversation with

Swan, and what was it.?

Clark. About a quarter of a Year before the murder happened, he called on me to take a walk, and fetch a horse out of the marsh; coming back by my lord Castlemain's, he asked me, if I was a hearty man, fufficient to shoot any thing: I told him, I was no sportsman, and could not shoot well: he faid, if I was, he could help me to 50 l. and a horse to ride on.

John Gall Sworn.

Gall. Hearing a bad accident had hap. pened to mr. Jeffreys, I asked how is it the gentleman is shot: mr. Tipping the apothecary and I went into the house, and was in the room close to mr. Feffreys, and I faid, my dear fir I am forry to fee this; if you think you know who did the murder hold up your hand; with that he held up his left hand; he was dabbing his wounds with his handkerchief, but as foon as this was mentioned of holding up his hand, he dropt his handkerchief and held up his hand.

The Prisoner's Defence.

Court. You have heard what has been charged against you, now is your Time to make your Defence. John Swan, have you any Witness to call?

Swan, Prisoner. Yes.

Elizabeth Jeffreys, Prisoner. clude most of them are perjured. I will leave my Cause to be pleaded by the Counfel. Eliz.

Elizabeth Diaper Sworn.

Diaper. I lived a few Yards from Mr. Jeffreys, and do remember when he was murdered. Between two and three o'Clock in the Morning I heard a Voice calling out Diaper, Diaper; on which I then jumped out of Bed, opened the Window, and saw Miss Jeffreys calling out, there are Rogues in the House. I was undressed, and in my Shift: I took my Gown, and said, I am coming as sast as I can. They were still crying out, Fire and Thieves. The Maid was at the Window at the same Time.

This Witness fainted in the Court, and so was obliged to be carried out, and her Husband, John Diaper, was

worn.

John Diaper. I live about fifteen Yards from the House, heard the Alarm of Miss feffreys crying out Fire, Murder, and I hieves, and I made hafte and observed Miss Jeffreys getting out of the Window, about half out. This was before I went down Stairs. When I got there I found her much frightened; and after I came there I faw John Swan open the Door. I went into the House, and found the Back-door open, the Window open, and then found the Gates all open, four Gates fouthwardly in the Garden all open. Then I proceeded to the Pantry, and there I found a Hoe. I observ'd no Track of Feet on the Dew which was then on the Ground, though I tried up and down. Swan seemed very much frightened, and wished he had died before his Master. went into the Room where Mr. Feffreys was, and observed some Marks of Blood on the Stairs. I saw Marks of Blood on the Banissers and the Stairs a Month afterwards. I always observed Miss was tender of her Uncle when fick, and never knew but that they lived comfortably together. There might be a Word now and then, but it was foon made up.

Mrs. Diaper having recovered herself, was brought again into Court, and de-

posed, that she saw Miss Jeffreys in her Shift, and Mrs. Buckle by her; and that this Deponent said to Miss, Lord, Miss, how did you get out; and she said, out of the Window?

For God's Sake, said Miss, see where my Uncle is, and Joe Martin. John Swan came out undrest. Miss was at her Door, and her Shift had no Blood upon it, nor Marks, nor Stains. It was foul, and she might have wore it two or three Days.

Miss Jeffreys fainted away at this Time, and continued under Convulsions for near 40 Minutes, during this Evi-

dence.

This Deponent farther faid, that the Maid opened her Master's Window, and cried out, Thieves, Rogues; the Rogues have opened my Master's Door, and cut my Master's Throat from Ear to Ear. As foon as I came to the Door I defired the maid to go and get the child down, which she did, and left it at Mrs. Martin's Door; when I came into Mr. feffreys's Room, I found him murdered, and the blood ran across his Throat. I generally nursed him in his illness, and observed Miss very kind to him. And I have known that John Swan has fetched Mr. Jeffreys home often from Chelfea, the Forest and elfewhere at all hours,

Being cross-examined, she said the Window was directly over the Door, and had a Casement; that it is a Window a Person could get our of, and that Miss had got out of the Window many a time; that she saw the Wounds bleeding, and the blood was warm, and that there were Marks of Blood on the Banisters on the right hand side going down; that she saw them all stript to their shirts and shifts and not a spot of blood upon them.

William Davis, fworn.

Davis. I live near Mr. Jeffreys, and heard Miss crying out, for God's sake bring a Ladder; and when the door was opened she said, Go and see for my Uncle

for I believe the Rogues have killed him. I went up stairs, faw Mr. Feffreys lying in his bed; he blowed his note with his handkerchief. I observed some blood on the banisters and the stairs; when I came down stairs, she order'd us to go and fearch all about for the rogues, if hity of us went she would pay them. She seemed to be a little matter frightened. Tohn Swan was very ready to affift us with rakes to fearch in the Pond.

Mary Buckle, Sworn.

Buckle. I live in the Court where Mr. Jeffreys was murdered. Wednesday morning between two and three o'clock, I heard a Calling out, I am afraid the house is on fire. When I came into the Court, Miss Jeffreys was falling from the window. asked the reason of it. She said she was in a Dream when she heard the Outcry in the house. She said, Don't mind me, go feek after my Uncle, she was in a real fright and concern; her Shift was not clean and no Blood upon it; that Miss the heard fome men run down stairs, and that they faid, Damnation to the old Rogue, they had done all the mifchief they could, and now they would go down and fet the house on fire, which forced her out of the Window.

Katharine Griffis, fworn.

Griffis. I heard the alarm; and when Miss Jeffreys came into the room, she faid, Dar Uncle, if you can speak, speak to me; if you know me, make motions, and he made none; that he died at eight or nine in the Evening; that Miss Jeffreys was in the Room and believes he was tenfible at that time; the asked him whether he knew her, and he fqueez'd her by the hand.

Robert Clifton, Sworn.

Clifton. I have known Mr. Jeffreys many years, was his Apothecary, was with him the day before he was murdered until the Evening. John Swan came to me about Ten in the morning, defired me to make all the hafte I could, for he feared his mafter was murdered; and Mis Jeffreys asked if any help could be had in London, if there was, the defired he might have it; that a Surgeon that was there imagined he might be dead before any help could come. I really believe the hand that discharged the Pistol must be wounded by the bursting of it, and John Swan was not wounded, and therefore I think he did not discharge the Pistol. I have taken Mr. Jeffreys out, at the request of Miss, which was, that she might receive a vifit, or go and fee a friend.

Being cross examined, he said, if John Swan was inclined to do his master a mischief, he had many better opportunities, as there was many a dark night when he came home with him; that his horse once went into a Pond, and he fell off his horse's neck, and Swan faved him, and he always exprest a fatisfaction in Swan who faved him. That Miss behaved as a dutiful child, and thinks she had no hand in the murder.

The Counsel for the Crown then obferv'd, That the piftol being along one, which appeared from the length of the rammer, (which was produced, as also the shattered remains of the pistol) and that part where the lock was fixed was entire, that confequently the hand that discharged it might not be hurt. That at the time he came to see Mr. Jeffreys, he told Mr. Forbes, That it was done by fome of the Family. To which Mr. Clifton now replied, that he might fay fo thro' furprize, but that he had no fuspicion of any person in the house at that Time.

Court. Was you not with Miss Teffreys this morning before fix, and did you not. receive a fum of money of her?

Clifton. I never received any money

from her.

Court. Was there not either twenty Pounds or twenty Guineas, that you received of her this morning, or the laft. night?

Clifton. My Son told me he had a twenty Pound Note, in part for Goods delivered to her. I never applied to her for this Money. And nothing past directly into Court unless the Money was paid.

Ann Clifton. Sworn. Clifton. I went into Mr. Jeffreye's back Gates, about Four o'Clock, and fav. Mifs Teffreys in the Garden, and I went into the House, and saw Mrs. Marlin, who faid she had lost the best Friend in the

World; and I faid I thought fo to. That that Day Mr. Jeffreys intended to alter his will, and to have provided for her Family.

Francis Gafbold. Sworn. Gafbold. I was well acquainted with the Deceased, and have often, at miss Jeffreys's request, taken him abroad, that so the might go to the boarding school, or take a walk.

William Fellows and Nathaniel Lidyard, deposed much the same particulars.

Sir Samuel Gower. Sworn.

Sir Samuel Gower. Matthews was brought before me, and was examined, and I committed him to Bridewell, on Suspicion of being concerned in some Robbery. He was examined four or five Times before me, and Mr. Bateman, and Mr. Quarrel. He gave different Accounts on his Examinations. I told him, I could not put Confidence in his Evidence, he prevaricated fo much. I did fuffer him to fign one or two of his Examinations. And when we faid any Thing of the Fact of murdering Mr. Jeffreys, he always faid he was hired to do it, and was offered Money. I asked him, why he did not make this Discovery sooner, and then he might have appeared like an honest Man, and faved his Mafter's Life; and he told me, he could not tell how to go about it. He was brought before me by Mr. Gall, upon my own Warrant, and I looked on him as a Criminal.

Mr. Quarrel. Sworn.

Mr. Quarrell. I was present when Matthews was before Sir Samuel Gower, some Time in November last; he differed in the latter Part of his Account; but as to his faying he was hired, he kept to that all the Time of his Examination; I did only hear the latter Part of it; upon observing some Hurt he had in his Hand,

recily or indirectly, that I would not come he faid, he received it by a Rope in the Ship.

James Wurriner. Sworn.

Warriver. On Matthews's second Examination, he faid, he knew nothing at all of the murder, nor did he ever hear of it until he was taken; and at his fecond Examination, he contradicted himself, and faid, that what he faid before was a Lye. I was defired to go into another Room to take his Confession, which he did, and figned with his mark; and he confess'd, that he was hired, to have 700 l. for the

The Prisoners at the Bar making no tarther Defence, nor speaking one Word in their own Behalf. The Judge particularly fummed up the Evidence to the Jury, and in the Conclusion of it obiewed, that the' the principal Evidence, might be represented as to prevaricate in some Particulars, yet when that Evidence which he gave in the prefent Cafe was corrobated by fo many other firing Evidences all supporting it, it could not be disputed. After he had concluded, the Jury resired and flayed about an Hour, and brought in their Verdict, both John Swan and Elizaleth Jeffry, Guilty

Death.

The Trial continued from about Six in the morning until One the next morning. When Elizabeth I ff eys came to the Bar, the was indulged the Liberty of a Chair to fit on; and during the whole Time the fat very fullen, and feemed but little affected until the Jury brought in their Verdict, and then the began to weep. When the spoke, it was with an Air of Undauntedness. J. in Ewan appeared from the Beginning to the End of his Trial wholly unconcerned, and feemed perfeetly undaunte! without the least Sign of Remorfe.

The Council for the crown were Mr. Lacey, Mr. Hervey, M. Bertie, Mr. Hatfell, Mr. Cox, an I Mr. Gascoyne. And for the Prisoner, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Knowler.



